

C L A I M S

1. A method of updating a database schema, characterized by comprising:

a requesting step of making a request that an update-information providing apparatus should provide update-information about a program to install and update information about a database schema;

a receiving step of receiving the update-information about the program and the update-information about the database schema, both transmitted from the update-information providing apparatus in response to the request;

a program-updating step of updating the program in accordance with the update-information about the program;

a comparing step of comparing the database schema used by the program with the database schema mounted, in accordance with the update-information about the database schema, in terms of version; and

a database schema updating step of updating the database schema mounted, in accordance with the update-information about the database schema, when it is determined in the comparing step that the database schema mounted needs to be updated.

2. The method of updating a database schema, according to claim 1, characterized in that in the database schema updating step, accesses to the database from the program are inhibited while the database schema is being updated.

3. The method of updating a database schema, according to claim 2, characterized in that in the database schema updating step, accesses to the database from any application in the

program is inhibited while the database schema is being updated.

4. The method of updating a database schema, according to claim 1, characterized in that in the database schema updating step, the database schema is inhibited from being updated while the program is accessing the database.

5. The method of updating a database schema, according to claim 4, characterized in that in the database schema updating step, the database schema is inhibited from being updated while any application in the program is accessing the database.

6. The method of updating a database schema, according to claim 1, characterized in that in the database schema updating step, log information is recorded for each command issued to the database to update the database schema.

7. A communication terminal characterized by comprising:
requesting means for making a request that an update-information providing apparatus should provide update-information about a program to install and update information about a database schema;

receiving means of receiving the update-information about the program and the update-information about the database schema, both transmitted from the update-information providing apparatus in response to the request;

program-updating means for updating the program in accordance with the update-information about the program;

comparing means for comparing the database schema used by the program with the database schema mounted, in accordance with the update-information about the database schema, in terms of version; and

database schema updating means for updating the database

schema mounted, in accordance with the update-information about the database schema, when the comparing means determines that the database schema mounted needs to be updated.

8. A method of providing update-information, characterized by comprising:

a storing step of storing update-information for a program to install in a communication terminal and update-information for a database schema; and

a transmitting step of transmitting the update-information for the program and the update-information for the database schema from the communication terminal when the communication terminal requests for the update-information for the program and the update-information for the database schema,

wherein the program is updated in accordance with the update-information for the program, the database schema used by the program and the database schema mounted are compared in terms of version in accordance with the update-information for the database schema, and the database schema mounted is updated in accordance with the update-information about the database schema, when it is determined from the result of comparison that the database schema mounted needs to be updated.

9. An update-information providing apparatus characterized by comprising:

storing means for storing update-information for a program to install in a communication terminal and update-information for a database schema; and

transmitting means for transmitting the update-information for the program and the update-information for the database schema from the communication terminal when the communication

terminal requests for the update-information for the program and the update-information for the database schema,

wherein the program is updated in accordance with the update-information for the program, the database schema used by the program and the database schema mounted are compared in terms of version in accordance with the update-information for the database schema, and the database schema mounted is updated in accordance with the update-information about the database schema, when it is determined from the result of comparison that the database schema mounted needs to be updated.

10. A program for updating a database schema, designed to cause an information-processing apparatus to perform:

a requesting step of making a request that an update-information providing apparatus should provide update-information about a program to install and update information about a database schema;

a receiving step of receiving the update-information about the program and the update-information about the database schema, both transmitted from the update-information providing apparatus in response to the request;

a program-updating step of updating the program in accordance with the update-information about the program;

a comparing step of comparing the database schema used by the program with the database schema mounted, in accordance with the update-information about the database schema, in terms of version; and

a database schema updating step of updating the database schema mounted, in accordance with the updated-information about the database schema, when it is determined in the comparing step

that the database schema mounted needs to be updated.

11. A program for providing update-information, designed to cause an information-processing apparatus to perform:

a storing step of storing update-information for a program to install in a communication terminal and update-information for a database schema; and

a transmitting step of transmitting the update-information for the program and the update-information for the database schema from the communication terminal when the communication terminal requests for the update-information for the program and the update-information for the database schema,

said program causing the communication terminal to update the program in accordance with the update-information for the program, to compare the database schema used by the program and the database schema mounted in terms of version in accordance with the update-information for the database schema, and update the database schema mounted in accordance with the updated-information about the database schema, when it is determined from the result of comparison that the database schema mounted needs to be updated.